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General and complete disarmament

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons: 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee

Note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.38

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.38, the General Assembly would:

(a) Take note of the decision of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, following appropriate consultations, to hold the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference from 8 to 19 April 2002 in New York;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the 2005 Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee.

2. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.38, assistance from the Secretariat would be required for servicing the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee.

3. The request contained in operative paragraph 2 relates to programme 2, Disarmament, and programme 6, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference services, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005.[1] The programme is covered under section 4, Disarmament, and is associated with subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.[2] The costs related to the activities associated with the aforementioned meeting shall be met in accordance with the

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arrangements made by the parties to the Treaty, and no additional costs shall be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations.

4. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.38, it is the understanding of the Secretary-General that Secretariat assistance and substantive support services would be required for its implementation.

5. In addition, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, no modifications would be required in the activities under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 as the activities to be undertaken under the draft resolution fall under subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction.

6. With respect to the assistance and the services to be rendered to the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee, related requirements for conference-servicing and other costs are envisaged. The first session of the Preparatory Committee is scheduled to be held from 8 to 19 April 2002 in New York. A decision on the dates and venues for holding further sessions of the Preparatory Committee and on the Conference itself is expected to be made by the parties at the first session of the Preparatory Committee, together with a number of other decisions on organizational arrangements, including the provision of summary records. Conference-servicing costs of the first session, including the provision of summary records, are estimated at $543,400.

7. Additionally, it is expected that non-conference-servicing requirements amounting to $20,900 would be needed in respect of travel of one Professional staff member from the Department for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch) and the cost of temporary assistance equivalent to 3 work-months of the GS (OL) staff.

8. It should be noted that activities related to international conventions or treaties that, under their respective legal instruments, are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations may be undertaken by the Secretariat only when sufficient funding is received, in advance, from the States parties. Furthermore, in accordance with established procedures, the United Nations would levy a charge at a rate of 13 per cent of expenditure for such activities, to defray the administrative and other support costs incurred in their implementation. Such expenses, estimated at $73,400, would also be borne by the States parties.

9. Furthermore, in accordance with established policies and procedures in the United Nations, a provision of $84,600, corresponding to 15 per cent of the estimated costs of the meeting (inclusive of programme support costs), would have to be made for a contingency reserve to cover eventual shortfalls and final expenditures.

10. A summary of the estimated cost of the assistance and services to be rendered to the Preparatory Committee, which will hold its first session from 8 to 19 April 2002 in New York, is presented below:

Preparatory Committee		(United States dollars)[a]
(a)	Conference-servicing costs	
	Meeting servicing	126 900
	Pre-session documentation	59 700
	In-session documentation	117 400
	Post-session documentation	35 300
	Summary records	188 900
	Other conference services	15 200
	Subtotal (a)	**543 400**
(b)	Non-conference servicing costs	
	Travel and daily subsistence allowance for one Professional staff from the Department for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)	5 500
	Three work-months of temporary assistance by GS (OL) staff	15 400
	Subtotal (b)	**20 900**
	Total ((a) + (b))	**564 300**
(c)	Programme support costs (13 per cent)	73 400
	Total ((a) + (b) + (c))	**637 700**
(d)	Reserve for contingency (15 per cent)	84 600
	Grand total	**722 300**

[a] All figures are rounded to the nearest $100.

11. The costing provided herein is for indicative purposes only. The parties to the Treaty would have to bear in full the actual costs of holding the first session of the Preparatory Committee.

12. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.38, no additional requirements would arise under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/56/6/Rev.1).

[2] A/56/6 (Sect. 4).